

City of Flagstaff Housing Authority Newsletter

August 2021

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## **Contact Us**

<u>General Phone</u>: (928) 213-2730 <u>All Work Orders</u>: (928) 213-2731

#### **East Flagstaff Housing**

Jayne Wittman, Housing Spec. Email: jwittman@flagstaffaz.gov Phone: (928) 213-2735

Fax: (928) 526-3734

Hours: M-Th 8am-4:30pm and

Fri 8am-12pm

#### **Flagstaff Housing West**

Patricia Sauers, Housing Spec. Email: psauers@flagstaffaz.gov

Phone: (928) 779-1887 Fax: (928) 779-5801

Hours: M-Th 8am-4:30pm and Fri 8am-12pm (closed 12-1pm)

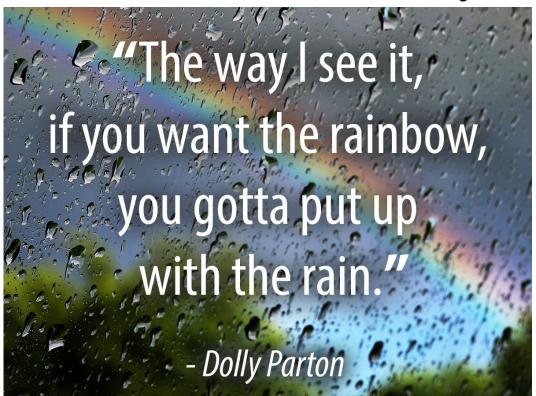
#### **Clark Homes**

Amanda Thomas, Housing Spec. <u>Email</u>: athomas@flagstaffaz.gov

<u>Phone</u>: (928) 779-1247 Fax: (928) 779-2175

Hours: M-Th from 8am-6pm

(closed 12pm-1pm) & Fri 8am-12pm



Public Notice and City of Flagstaff Housing Authority Opening of the Waiting List for the Section 8 Program

The City of Flagstaff Housing Authority is pleased to announce that the Waiting List for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program will open Sept. 1, 2021 at 8:30 am and will remain open until further notice.

Applications must be filed online at <u>apply.havenconnect.com/form/application/9504f36d-62c3-47ec-8920-109efcef7796</u>. (Link also available at <u>flagstaff.az.gov/4657</u>).

Applications will be considered based on date and time of application and Residency. Applicants who live or work in Flagstaff will be considered ahead of applicants who do not regardless of date and time of application.

Applications may be filed on any internet enabled device including laptops, personal computers, cell phones and tablets. Kiosks will be available at the CFHA main office, 3481 N Fanning Dr for those lacking computer and/or internet access.

Persons requiring assistance as a Reasonable Accommodation may contact Kurt Aldinger, Public Housing Manager, at (928) 213-2736 or TDD (928) 774-5281.

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# Operational Updates: Public Housing & Clark Homes

All CFHA Offices have reopened in a limited capacity effective June 21, 2021. We will be limiting the number of people allowed in the lobby at any given time. If you need to speak to your Specialist, but have not been sent an appointment please call or email the Specialist rather than coming to the office. Please do not come to the office if you are symptomatic (fever, coughing, etc.).

Annual Recertifications will return to an in office appointment following return of requested paperwork. An appointment will be sent following receipt of the paperwork. This appointment will not be optional.

Interim Recertifications (for changes) will continue to be completed by mail. However, if paperwork is not returned by the deadline, an appointment will be sent instead of a second notice. An appointment may also be requested if this is your preference. Please also remember to report income decreases by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month to ensure decreases take effect the following month.

In office appointments for household members turning 18 will be resumed.

#### **Office Hours**

## Main (Siler Homes) Office:

8:00 am-4:30 pm Mon-Thurs | 8:00 am-12:00 pm Fri Brannen Homes (West) Office:

8:00 am-4:30 pm Mon-Thurs | 8:00 am-12:00 pm Fri Closed 12:00-1:00 pm

#### **Clark Homes Office:**

8:00 am-6:00 pm Mon-Thurs | Closed 12-1 pm & Fri Clark Homes Neighborhood Network:

Will be announced soon

#### **Rent Collection Policy Information**

CFHA has been waiving late fees, accepting partial payments, entering into repayment agreements, has not counted late payments toward the three (3) late payment policy, and has not pursued non-payment terminations since April 2020. Please understand that we have not been legally obligated to do this since the CDC Moratorium is set to expire on July 31, 2021. At this time we anticipate returning to the approved rent

# FlagstaffResources.com Hotline

Online resource hub, <u>FlagstaffResources.com</u>, is now available by phone at (928) 832-2324.

City of Flagstaff Ho

collection policy in September 2021. Please do not allow rent to build up to a point where it will not be possible for it to be paid, which will result in termination of tenancy. Please be aware that there is no "rent forgiveness." If your income has gone down contact your specialist to discuss a rent adjustment. If you are two or more months behind or if you will have trouble paying any past due amount, contact your specialist to make an arrangement to repay the past due amount in installments.

Please be aware that AZ DES is offering rental and utility assistance. You may apply for the assistance at DES Emergency Rental Assistance Program (era.azdes.gov). If you need assistance with this process please contact Kurt Aldinger at kaldinger@flagstaffaz.gov or (928) 213-2736.

#### **Maintenance News**

Please continue to call in all work orders to (928) 213-2731. It is not necessary to call more than once. All routine Work Orders are now done by appointment only, so please be sure to include a call back number in your message. Please also be aware that no work orders will be performed when there are minors who are home with no adult present

There is currently a serious material shortage for much of the materials needed by maintenance. Our contractors are also experiencing labor shortages. This may lead to a longer wait than is usual for some repairs to be made. This shortage has especially impacted window replacement. It is currently taking two months or more for broken windows to be replaced. Your patience is appreciated.

Parts used in repairs for the storm doors at Siler and Brannen Homes are no longer available, nor are comparable replacement doors available. Because of this we can no longer repair the storm doors. Storm doors that are damaged will be removed and cannot be replaced, so please be careful not to damage them.

Annual Inspections have been completed on all homes for 2021. Inspections may resume October 2021.

### **COVID-19 Vaccinations & Info**

For vaccination information:

- → (928) 679-7300 COVID-19 Info Line
- → Coconino.az.gov/2547 Vaccine Info Page
- → Coconino.az.gov/2580 Vaccination Locations
- → CDC.gov/vaccines/covid-19

**Authority Newsletter** 

# **APS Utility Assistance with CPLC**

Eligibility requirements for utility assistance include:

- → Being an APS customer in Arizona.
- → Call the APS Crisis Bill Assistance Line for prescreening to see if they are eligible to apply.
- → Providing I.D., proof of crisis, and either verification of the most recent 30 days of pay or most recent SNAP/ Social Security award letters to verify income requirement for anyone 18 or over (unless still in high school).
- → Providing most recent APS bills which can be printed out by CPLC with an account number and family member's last name.

If your bill is under a different name, provide a written statement from person on the APS account giving permission to receive the service on their behalf.

APS Customers can call Airea Padilla with Chicanos por la Causa (CPLC) at <u>(602) 618-1974</u>, Mondays & Tuesdays, 9am-12pm and 2pm-4pm, and Fridays, 9am-12pm for prescreening. Appointments are first come first serve.

For urgent need, email <u>Airea.Padilla@cplc.org</u> with full name, account number, zip code, and phone number. Call or email for additional questions.



# **CHICANOS POR LA CAUSA**

# Coconino Community College Certificate Programs

Coconino County Community College hosts a growing list of professional certificate programs to help you find your next career!

- → Commercial Drivers License (CDL) with Phoenix Truck Driving School, see <u>flagstaffcdl.com</u> or call <u>888.208.7441</u>.
- → Google IT Professional Support Certificate to train students for entry level IT support positions, see coconino.edu/it-support-professional-cert.
- → Automotive Technology (CERT) helps aspiring technicians enter the auto industry, see <u>coconino.edu/automotive-certificate</u>.

See <u>Coconino.edu</u> for more programs or contact CTE Specialist, David Prieb at <u>David.Prieb@coconino.edu</u>.

# Welcome to New Clark Homes Service Coordinator!

Welcome aboard to Clark Homes new Service Coordinator, Irene Montano! Irene grew up in Flagstaff. She is bringing her experience with Boys & Girls Club of Las Vegas and Sunnyside Neighborhood Association to Clark Homes Service Coordinator hours are:

- → Monday, 9am-2pm
- → Tuesday, 3pm-6pm
- → Wednesday, 9am-2pm
- → Thursday, 3pm-6pm

# **Internet Payment Assistance**

The Federal Communications Commission has launched a temporary program to help families afford Internet service during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Emergency Broadband Benefit provides up to \$50/month for broadband service and up to \$100 to purchase hardware. Enroll through a participating broadband provider or directly with the USAC:

GetEmergencyBroadband.org. Applications are also available in the office. Visit fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit or call (833) 511-0311 for more info.

Suddenlink and Centurylink are two Internet Service Providers in the Flagstaff area that are participating. You can reach EBB specialists at:

→ CenturyLink: 1 (800) 767-9905

→ Suddenlink: 1 (877) 694-9474

This is not an endorsement of either business.

# **Emergency Housing Vouchers**

The Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program is launching in Flagstaff. Vouchers will be prioritized by the Front Door of Coconino County Coordinated Entry System. Participants who are homeless; recently homeless; or fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or human trafficking as defined by HUD and the Front Door Program will be preferred.

It is likely that most people eligible for this resource are already connected to the Front Door Program and will be referred by case managers assigned to provide client housing support and connection. If you think you are eligible for the Program, please contact Front Door of Coconino County. Connecting to the Front Door does not guarantee your eligibility or prioritization for housing or rental subsidy.

# Recipe: Caprese Salad

Celebrate summer with fresh tomatoes, basil, and mozzarella in this very easy, very tasty classic!



## **Ingredients**, 4 Servings

4 medium tomatoes 1/4 cups basil leaves, fresh 1/2 pd mozzarella cheese 1/8 tsp salt 2 tbsp balsamic vinegar1 tsp ground mustard2 tsp olive oil1/8 tsp pepper

#### **Directions**

- 1. Slice tomatoes, slice mozzarella, and pluck steps from basil leaves if needed.
- 2. Arrange tomatoes, cheese, and basil on a platter.
- 3. Whisk vinegar, olive oil, mustard, salt, and pepper; drizzle over the salad. Add more salt and pepper as desired, and serve!

For a sweet variation, substitute peaches for the tomatoes and leave off the mustard!

Source: tasteofhome.com/recipes/caprese-salad/

# **Medical Bill Financial Assistance**

Most hospitals are nonprofit organizations and have some charitable mission, including debt forgiveness and financial assistance program. If you have outstanding medical bills and need assistance paying them, use a search engine to search "Hospital Name" and "Financial Assistance" to find the webpage and details for that hospital. You can find information for Flagstaff Medical Center and more at <a href="mailto:nahealth.com/billing-insurance/northern-arizona-healthcare's-financial-assistance-program">nahealth.com/billing-insurance/northern-arizona-healthcare's-financial-assistance-program</a>.

## **STEAM Corner:** Straw Roller Coaster!

Who needs big toy sets when you can make a roller coaster with just simple odds and ends!

# What You'll Need

- → Cardboard box for the base
- → Straws: Colorful ones help!
- → Scissors
- → Hot glue gun, tape, or straight pins
- → A ping pong ball
- → Optional: A bowl or cup to catch the ball

Starting with a pair of vertical support straws, creating a high point where the ball can be set. Line up straw rails and glue gun/tape/straight pin (with parent assistance) to connect the rails and supports;



if using the glue gun, hold steady for several seconds. Be sure that the rails typically descend, gaining momentum, though that momentum can carry the ball uphill, too! Use the scissors to cut the straw to fit various interweaving lengths. This project is great for partners as both learn about momentum, gravity, engineering, and teamwork!

Source: <u>frugalfun4boys.com/engineering-project-kids-build-straw-roller-coaster/</u>

# **NACA College Scholarship**

The NACA Scholarship benefits three College students with \$1,000 each. Requirements include:

- → A member or descendant of a state or federally recognized tribe, or current NACA employee;
- → Must be enrolled full-time with at least a 2.0 GPA;
- → Enrollment in an associates, bachelor, graduate, or professional degree program leading to public or behavioral health (to be verified);
- → A completed application packet, including two letters of recommendation, proof of tribal enrollment or descent, recent transcripts and short essay responses.

Questions and submissions can be emailed to Tallerita at <a href="mailto:TRogers@nacainc.org">TRogers@nacainc.org</a>, called at (928) 526-2968 x135 or hand delivered/mailed to NACA Main: 2717 N Steves Blvd, Suite 11, Flagstaff, AZ 86004.

# Ready-Set-Go & Flooding Info

Expect emergency officials to use these keywords during fire and flood events:

- **1. Get Ready -** Prepare your family, assemble emergency supplies, and plan escape routes.
- 2. Be Set Pack necessities and check emergency items. Know how to stay aware of the latest news from reliable sources.
- **3. Go!** When needed, evacuate! Follow your plan, adhere to local jurisdiction's evacuation processes. <u>Learn more at ein.az.gov/ready-set-go</u> or call the

Coconino County Hotline: (928) 679.8525.

If your unit floods or experiences other issues, notify Maintenance at (928) 213-2731. The Maintenance Team can track and respond to Maintenance issues only if they are informed of them.

## What Does Home Mean to You?

Let the Housing Section know what home means to you at <a href="mailto:surveymonkey.com/r/SQM2XNP">surveymonkey.com/r/SQM2XNP</a>. By sharing a response, you are allowing staff to include your name and quote in the 10 Year Housing Plan.

On Dec 1, 2020, City Council prioritized safe, decent, and affordable housing with the Proclamation of Housing Emergency. **The Housing Plan** will define the emergency, provide goals, and explain strategies to increase affordable housing options for all residents.

# **Apply for the Housing Commission**

Flagstaff City Council will appoint five Housing Commissioners in September 2021. Two seats are for a low-income housing expert and a community representative. If you are interested or know anyone who might be interested, please apply by August 20<sup>th</sup> at flagstaff.az.gov/forms.aspx?FID=166.

The Commission strengthens Council's goal to "Support development and increase the inventory of public and private affordable housing for renters and homeowners." Flagstaff's Housing Commission also assures that an open, inclusive, and transparent process is utilized in the discussion, prioritization, and presentation of recommendations that address the community's housing needs.

The Housing Commission meets fourth Thursday of the month from 1:00-3:00 pm. Applicants must reside in City limits and be at least 18 years of age to be eligible. Email questions to <a href="mailto:LBloom@FlagstaffAZ.gov">LBloom@FlagstaffAZ.gov</a>.

## You & Your Wallet:

Using the 50/20/30 Method

In last month's issue, we described how to understand your income and expenses and constructing your budget. This month we are going to look at one type of budget to help with reaching your household goals: The 50/20/30 Method.

It can be helpful to use a spreadsheet program like Google Sheets, LibreOffice, or Excel; the first two options are free. This is not a recommendation for any specific software product.

Look at your household income and split this up into smaller pieces:

- → 50% of your monthly spending goes to <u>Essentials</u> such as rent, utilities, transportation, insurance, medical, and food.
- → 20% of your monthly spending goes to <u>Savings</u> <u>Goals</u>, including debt repayment.
- → 30% of your monthly spending goes toward <u>Everything Else</u> such as memberships, gifts, and dining out.
- → Assign each expense to a group, total each group, and then divide this value by your total income to determine the percentage breakdown. (Note: 0.30 is 30%, 0.64 is 64%.)

What do your expenses look like compared to the 50/20/30 model? Does anything pop out to you about your spending?

It is important to pay down debts each month if you have them (and count them as savings). You can turn this habit into savings down the road!

To reduce expenses, try:

- → Calling your internet and utility company to ask about cheaper plans or other resources. Utility assistance programs can also help.
- → Clip coupons and use apps to reduce grocery bills.
- → Would dining in, buying basic staples, or using community food resources help?
- → Keep reading the newsletter for more tips!

Source: lifehacker, <u>lifehacker.com/how-to-set-up-a-</u> **50-20-30-budget-1843889336**.

# Your Story Could be Featured in Next Month's Newsletter!

If you have news of accomplishments, original artwork, poetry, community group news, recipes, or if you just want to see something specific on the next newsletter, we want to hear from you! Drop off a letter at the Siler Homes office or send an email to caleb.alexander@flagstaffaz.gov.

Bulk trash pickup should be placed curbside by 6:00 am on the Monday of your collection week.

# August 2021

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Trash Pickup Clark Homes, Crestview, and Cedar Yard Watering: None	Trash Pickup All Sunnyside Scattered Sites Recycling Pickup Brannen and Verde Watering: Odd #s	Trash Pickup Siler, Brannen, Steves, Alta Vista, Lockett, and Verde Watering: Even #s	Recycling Pickup Clark Homes, Cedar, and Crestview Watering: Odd #s	Recycling Pickup Siler, Lockett, Alta Vista, Steves, and all Sunnyside Scattered Sites Watering: Even #s
August 2 Public Housing Rent Due Clark Homes Rent Due 8/1	3	4	5	6 Clark Late Rent Reminders Mailed
9 Bulky Trash Pickup: Brannen & Verde Public Housing Late Rent Reminders	10	11 First Day FUSD in session	12	13
16 < 7/15 Last day to turn in LIPH Recert. Packets for November by 8am	17	18	19	20
23  Bulky Trash Pickup: Clark Homes, Crestview, & Cedar	24	Last day to report changes to insure rent decrease	26	27
30 <u>Bulky Trash Pickup:</u> Siler, Greenlaw, & Scattered Sites	31 <u>Last day to turn in</u> <u>Clark Recert Packets</u>	September 1  Section 8 WL Opens at 8:30 am Apply at apply. havenconnect.com	September 2	September 3  Mon, Sept 6 > All City Offices Closed for Labor Day



